

MH 78:44/1

MOH Circular No. 76/2024

14 October 2024

All HCSA Licensees
All registered medical and dental practitioners

AMENDMENT OF THE HEALTHCARE SERVICES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2021 ON ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT ON MEDICAL CERTIFICATES

This circular informs all Licensees licensed under the Healthcare Services Act (“HCSA”), on the implementation of a new regulation on Medical Certificates (“MCs”).

Proposed New Requirement

2. On 22 April 2024, MOH has sought feedback via Circular No. 29/2024 and Circular No. 30/2024 on a new proposed regulation regarding MCs under the HCSA. This new regulation requires all Licensees to **ensure that every MC issued for a patient includes the (i) name and (ii) medical or dental registration number of the issuing medical or dental practitioner** for the purposes of accountability and transparency of the issuing practitioner.

Implementation of New Regulation

3. MOH did not receive any objection for this proposed new requirement. Hence, this new regulation takes effect on 14 October 2024 and is appended in **Annex A** for information please.

4. This will complement the Ethical Code and Ethical Guidelines of Singapore Medical Council and Singapore Dental Council that all MCs carry a professional and legal responsibility and that it must be filled and signed by the medical or dental practitioner personally, i.e. all MCs signed by registered practitioners must be accompanied with a name and the issuing medical or dental practitioner’s registration number. In the event if the MCs are generated electronically where signatures are not required, they must still include the name and the issuing practitioners’ registration number.

5. Licensees are to ensure strict compliance to this new regulation. MOH may conduct random audits to the MC issuances from Licensees. Non-compliance to this new regulation may result in enforcement actions being taken, which include but not

limited to censure in writing, financial penalty, modifying any conditions of the licence, shortening the term of the licence or suspension of the licence.

6. Should you require further enquiries, you may contact MOH at HCSA_Enquiries@moh.gov.sg. Thank you.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully



PROFESSOR KENNETH MAK
DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF HEALTH
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

ANNEX A

Amendment of regulation 2

“medical certificate”, in relation to a patient, means a document issued by a medical practitioner or dentist certifying the state of the patient’s health;

New regulation 39A

Issue of medical certificates

39A.—

(1) A licensee must ensure that every medical certificate that is issued in respect of a patient of the licensee —

(a) is issued by a personnel of the licensee who —

(i) is a medical practitioner or dentist; and

(ii) had provided medical or dental care (as the case may be) to the patient; and

(b) states the name and registration number of the medical practitioner or dentist who issued the medical certificate.

(2) In this regulation, “registration number” —

(a) in relation to a dentist, means the registration number assigned to the dentist by the Singapore Dental Council upon registration under the Dental Registration Act 1999; or

(b) in relation to a medical practitioner, means the registration number assigned to the medical practitioner by the Singapore Medical Council upon registration under the Medical Registration Act 1997.